

What is claimed is:

1. An information readout apparatus for irradiating a recording medium having a recording layer and a readout layer with a light beam and reading the recorded information on the recording layer by opening a detecting window smaller than the area irradiated with the optical beam, said apparatus comprising:

4. An information readout apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said reference value output means outputs the value of X/Y that minimizes the jitter or the error rate at the time of detecting the data of said readout signal as reference value.

5. An information readout apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the above reference value is provided in said reference value output means either at the time of loading said recording medium or periodically.

6. An information readout apparatus for irradiating a recording medium having a recording layer and a readout layer with a light beam and reading the recorded information on the recording layer by opening a detecting window smaller than the area irradiated with the optical beam, said apparatus comprising:

a resolution detecting means for detecting the resolution on the basis of the average level and the saturation level of the signals read out from said recording medium;

a resolution detecting means for detecting the resolution on the basis of the signal level of the read out waveform of the isolated mark recorded/formed on said recording medium; and

a reference value output means for outputting a reference value for said resolution; and

a readout control means for controlling the size of said detection window

so as to make said detected resolution close to said reference value.

7. An information readout apparatus according to claim 6, wherein
said readout control means controls the readout power of the optical
beam irradiating said recording medium.

9. An information readout apparatus according to claim 8, wherein
said reference value output means outputs the value of X/Y that
minimizes the jitter or the error rate at the time of detecting the data of said
readout signal as reference value.

11. An information readout method for irradiating a recording medium having a recording layer and a readout layer with a light beam and reading the recorded information on the recording layer by opening a detecting window smaller than the area irradiated with the optical beam, said method comprising steps of:

outputting a reference value for said resolution; and

controlling the size of said detection window so as to make said detected resolution close to said reference value.

12. An information readout apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the resolution is detected in said resolution detecting step on the basis of the quotient obtained by dividing the difference X between the sample value Y near the peak of said isolated mark and the sample value adjacent to said sample value Y by said sample value Y near the peak, or X/Y .

detecting the resolution on the basis of the average level and the saturation level of the signals read out from said recording medium;

outputting a reference value for said resolution; and